



2017 MOONEE VALE INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM

Dear Parents,

The Moonee Vale Instrumental Music Program (MVIMP) is a fantastic opportunity for your child to learn a musical instrument from a professional music tutor during school time. The program is open to all children in Years 3-6. Children learn in small groups (maximum of 5 students, though often less) and participate in performances. There is also an opportunity for children to join the school band when they are deemed ready. MVIMP runs in 4 local schools, which assists us in keeping prices down as we share our music tutors, and allows us to encourage children to combine at times for camps, performances and special events. The music tutors who work in MVIMP are highly successful musicians and teachers, who ensure that learning music is a positive experience for the children involved.

We are now in the process of organising next year's Instrumental Music Program. We welcome new students into the program and your child has been offered a place, as attached. **Please read this information carefully and if you do NOT agree or accept the place, please ensure you withdraw your child before the end of the week, as we often have more applications than places available and this will allow us to offer the place to another child.** We assume you are accepting the place unless we hear from you upon receiving this offer.

It is envisaged that the Instrumental Music Program will commence on the week beginning **MONDAY 6th of February 2017**. Please consider the following information about the music program before making your decisions.

Instruments Offered:

| | | | |
|--------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Violin | Flute | Trumpet | Euphonium |
| Cello | Clarinet | Trombone | Bass Guitar* |
| Viola | Saxophone** | French Horn | Percussion** |

* **Three** places will be available for the bass guitar in each school and conditions apply because of the demands of the instrument. Students must be in Year 4 or above.

** A limited number of places will be available for percussion and saxophone in order to achieve a balance of instruments throughout the program and the opportunity to participate fully in all events.

Tutors: Qualified D.E.T. music teachers or professional musicians are employed to instruct the children.

Children: Receive $\frac{1}{2}$ hour lessons on a weekly basis (same day each week)

The Group: Size is kept to a minimum where possible. The maximum is 5.

Program Costs:

The cost for MVIMP for 2017 is yet to be confirmed. As a guide, the 2016 fees were:

- Full Fee- \$840.00 including instrument hire or \$780 without instrument hire
- Concession Card Holders - \$720

The MVIMP Management Committee does make an effort to run this program in a cost effective way.

Fees

Fees can be paid in 4 equal instalments of each term or the full amount by the end of February, Term 1.

THE FEES ARE NOT CALCULATED PER LESSON. PLEASE NOTE THERE IS NO REFUND FOR MISSED LESSONS AND FEES ARE FOR THE FULL TERM/INSTALMENT PERIOD.

THE FEES INCLUDE:

- ❖ The wages of the Instrumental Music Tutors
- ❖ CRT costs to replace Music Liaison Teachers to attend rehearsals e.t.c.
- ❖ Work cover, Long Service Leave, Superannuation
- ❖ Rehearsals and Bus fares
- ❖ Photocopying
- ❖ Administration Costs
- ❖ Purchase of new instruments
- ❖ Maintenance of instruments
- ❖ Use of instruments and equipment e.g. percussion, music stands, bass amps...

..... *And special features of the program such as:*

- ❖ Band and String Orchestra
- ❖ Combined Concert e.g. buses for rehearsals e.t.c.

Children may be asked to purchase ancillaries (reeds, cork grease, resin and a music folder).

Included in the fees:

Instruments are made available to the student on the condition that they take good care of them and that if any damage or loss occurs; it is immediately reported to the relevant Music Liaison Teacher. The school arranges repairs and **under NO circumstances** should a parent or student attempt to repair an instrument. All losses of instruments are reported to police and it is important that this is done promptly as we are more likely to locate it sooner than later. Parents may be asked to reimburse the program if the instrument is not recovered. Of course wilful damage or damage incurred as a result of a lack of proper care would be charged to parents/carers. The fees of percussion students cover their sticks, a practise pad and the use and maintenance of the school's percussions instruments.

Contracts

Each Child and Parent /Carer must sign a contract, which details specific conditions and highlights the commitment necessary for successful participation in the program.

School Band

Students are invited to join the school band as soon as they and their tutors feel comfortable with their ability. Band rehearsals are held on a weekly basis for 1 hour at no extra charge.

Combined Band

The combined band comprising children from the 4 schools in the program may perform at special events. Numbers in the combined band are limited to 80. Selection is finalised by the Band Director and Instrumental Music Teachers (there are limited places for percussion/ bass guitar players).

Expectations

In order for each student to aspire to a high personal standard in music, long-term commitment and effort are necessary. It is expected that they will study their instrument for the **ENTIRE SCHOOL YEAR**. Any student and Parents/Carers wishing to withdraw their child from the program during the year must discuss this with the Music Liaison Teacher at the school, and give notice during the term **prior** to leaving the program.

We have also found that students benefit from learning an instrument from one tutor at a time only. It is recommended that e.g. a child learns violin through MVIMP or through a private tutor, not both.

Changing Instruments

Some children may wish to change their instrument but, as a general rule, we do not favour this. Experience has shown the problems that cause a student to change instruments are rarely solved by this action. Typically it has more to do with either a lack of consistent practice routine, or a lack of application, and although a new instrument can renew enthusiasm for a short time it rarely deals with the root of the problem. Parents/Carers will need to discuss any request for change with their Music Liaison Teacher.

Music Camp

A Music camp is held in August for 60 children (15 from each of the 4 schools). The children receive intensive music tuition from the tutors throughout the week. The camp culminates in a concert on the Thursday night, to which parents are invited. The cost of the camp will be determined early in 2017. Children are chosen for the camp on the basis of their participation in the MVIMP program. Preference is given to children in Grade 6 who have been in the program since Grade 3, have reliably shown up to lessons each week complete with instrument and music, can manage the complexity of the music and have displayed evidence of having practised. The children who are invited to attend camp then proceed to the Combined Band for the annual combined concert. Please be aware that places on music camp and in Combined Band are limited for those students learning percussion and bass guitar, and that selection of one of these instruments may mean missing out on these events.

End of Year Concert

This combined concert will be held in the Celebrity Room at Moonee Valley Racecourse. Every child in the program participates in ensemble items.

Absences from Performances

If your child will be missing from a performance because of illness, it is expected that you contact the Music Liaison Teacher.

Encouragement and Support

One of the most important aspects of the program, apart from the playing, is the encouragement and support that comes from the Parents/Carers. Please make time to listen to your child play and offer constructive feedback. Positive reinforcement is the best way of encouraging your child to achieve their personal best.

All students in the program should practice on a regular basis. We recommend 10 minutes daily for beginners and 20 minutes daily for other students.

Please consider all the above information before making your decision. New places will be allocated on the basis of:

1. The order in which the forms are received
2. The number of available instruments and places

We look forward to a good year and wish you a very Happy Musical Time!!!

Bev Loft, MVIMP AVPS Liason



MOONEE VALE INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM MVIMP

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR INSTRUMENT STUDY - 2017

NAME: _____

YEAR LEVEL in 2016: _____ Unit in 2016: _____

I WOULD LIKE TO PLAY (Indicate at least three choices) 1, 2 & 3

Please number in preferential order a selection of three instruments you would like to learn. As the demand for some instruments is high, we cannot guarantee a first choice (but we do our best!).

| Number | Instrument |
|--------|--------------|
| | SAXOPHONE* |
| | FLUTE |
| | CLARINET |
| | PERCUSSION*^ |
| | TROMBONE |
| | EUPHONIUM* |

| Number | Instrument |
|--------|---------------|
| | CELLO |
| | VIOLIN |
| | TRUMPET |
| | BASS GUITAR*^ |
| | FRENCH HORN |
| | VIOLA |

* A limited number of places will be available for these instruments.

^ Students learning percussion or bass guitar often do not all proceed to band, music camp or combined band, due to limited places for these instruments. If this is a concern, we recommend selecting different instruments.

ANY INSTRUMENT PLAYED IN 2016? _____

I, _____ the parent of the above student, understand that if my child is accepted into the Moonee Vale Instrumental Music Program I will have to pay ALL the costs including the fees/ hire for the year. These are:

- \$840.00 including instrument hire (\$210 per Term),
- \$780 with own instrument (\$195 per Term)
- Concession Card holders \$720 (\$180 per Term)

associated with the program for my child/ren for 2017.

Parent's Signature: _____

PLEASE RETURN TO BEV in Unit 1 (or the Unit 2 letterbox) BY FRIDAY, 3rd of FEBRUARY 2017